

Amendments to the Specification

Amend the paragraph on page 5, at lines 17-30, as follows:

Consequently, the new location of attachment of the tether to the striker enables compliance with stringent safety standards without detracting from the playability of the toy instrument. In particular, two tethered strikers can be provided while still satisfying cord maximum perimeter standards and at the same time allowing an appropriate length of cord to play the instrument without difficulty. According to one such standard for tethers that can tangle or form a loop, or both, in connection with any part of the toy, the perimeter of the loop should be less than 14 inches for children younger than 18 months. Accordingly, the combined length of the tethers 16 and any spacing between the body attachment locations 32 preferably is no greater than about 14 inches, i.e. the sum of the lengths of the tethers and the length of the spacing (if any) between the attachment locations is no greater than about 14 inches. If the tethers are elastic (stretchable), this criteria should be met with the tethers are stretched upon application of a prescribed amount of force. According to another recommended standard for toys intended for children younger than 18 months, each tether individually should be less than 12 inches long.